

Arthur Simmonds Caryopteris



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Caryopteris x clandonensis 'Arthur Simmonds'

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Bluebeard, Blue Spirea, Blue Mist Shrub

Description:

Light, airy shrub with powder-blue flowers held over bluish-green leaves; foliage has fuzzy, silver undersides and is fragrant when crushed; a true butterfly magnet for the garden; cut back in late winter to promote vigorous stem growth

Ornamental Features

Arthur Simmonds Caryopteris features dainty cymes of powder blue flowers along the branches from mid summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has grayish green foliage with silver undersides. The fuzzy oval leaves do not develop any appreciable fall colour.

Landscape Attributes

Arthur Simmonds Caryopteris is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Arthur Simmonds Caryopteris is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting



Arthur Simmonds Caryopteris flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Arthur Simmonds Caryopteris in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Arthur Simmonds Caryopteris will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Arthur Simmonds Caryopteris makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.